

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the final Office Action mailed on July 6, 2010. Claims 1-19 are pending in the present application with Claims 1 and 9 being in independent form. By the present amendment, Claims 1 and 9 have been amended to better clarify Applicants' claimed subject matter. No new matter is added.

Claims 1, 3-5, 7-9, 12-13, and 18-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Strierner et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,931,463) in view of DeGeorge (U.S. Application No. 2003/0135868) and Hiltgen (U.S. Application No. 2004/0216140). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1, as amended herein, recites, *inter alia*, as follows:

“...wherein standard features of the entertainment device are configured to be (i) concurrently operable with the one or more additional functionality features and (ii) selectively updateable by the one or more additional functionality features, **such that the entertainment device automatically recognizes, accepts, and carries out the non-standard features of the one or more functionality devices based on the proximity of the one or more functionality devices to the entertainment device.**” (emphasis added)

At page 4 of the present final Office Action, the Examiner stated that the applied combination of Strierner and DeGeorge does not explicitly disclose “wherein the non-standard features are configured to be (i) concurrently operable with the one or more additional functionality features and (ii) selectively updateable by the one or more additional functionality features.” The Examiner relied on Hiltgen to cure the deficiencies of Strierner and DeGeorge.

However, it is respectfully submitted that the applied combination of Strierner, DeGeorge, and Hiltgen fails to disclose and/or suggest at least “...wherein standard features of the entertainment device are configured to be (i) concurrently operable with the one or more

additional functionality features and (ii) selectively updateable by the one or more additional functionality features, such that the entertainment device automatically recognizes, accepts, and carries out the non-standard features of the one or more functionality devices based on the proximity of the one or more functionality devices to the entertainment device,” as recited in amended independent Claim 1.

As best understood by Applicants, Hiltgen is directed to a method and system for accessing system operations. Specifically, Hiltgen describes a method for accessing system administration operations that first comprises creating a shell interface layer. The shell interface layer comprises a plurality of standard routines for performing a plurality of system administration operations. The shell interface layer is supported within a scripting environment. (Abstract)

In particular, as cited by the Examiner, paragraph [0064] of Hiltgen states:

“As such, feature C 555 will be dropped from the script response 530 that is returned to the custom script 510. In addition, optionally, the shell interface layer 520 can **provide in the script response 530 notification that new features are available** within OS/H-A' 550 that are unsupportable without updates to the shell interface layer. These updates, as shown in the API update 570, **can be implemented directly into the API layer 320, or alternatively, provided in module A' 550, depending on the particular application.**” (emphasis added)

It appears that Hiltgen merely informs the user that updates are available and may provide options to the user on how to receive or execute such updates.

In contrast, at paragraph [0030] of Applicants published application (2008/0055102), it is stated that:

“In a first embodiment, an electronic system is arranged so that it is capable of **automatically recognizing if a functionality button is attached thereto, and to subsequently update the available functionality features according to the nature of the functionality button.** For example, the functionality button may contain a storage module, or an integrated circuit, and the additional features may be transferred from the storage module or the integrated circuit to the system.” (emphasis added)

Additionally, at paragraph [0032] of Applicants published application (2008/0055102), it is stated that:

“Some or all of the aforementioned additional features may alternatively only be present in the functionality device itself. In such an embodiment of the present invention, the functionality feature is not installed or transferred to the electronic device, but **the electronic device is adapted to accept and carry out instructions from the functionality device**. In this embodiment the functionality devices contain processing hardware and software.” (emphasis added)

In other words, the entertainment device includes standard features. The one or more functionality devices include non-standard features. When the one or more functionality devices are in physical proximity to the entertainment device, the entertainment device automatically recognizes and accepts such non-standard features and automatically executes such non-standard features concurrently with the standard features. Hiltgen does not teach and/or suggest such a system configuration.

It is respectfully submitted that independent Claim 9 has been amended to recite similar features as those of independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) with respect to Claims 1 and 9 and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Claims 3-5, 7-8, 12-13, and 18-19 depend from one of independent Claims 1 and 9 and therefore include the claim limitations of their respective independent claims. Further, dependent Claims 3-5, 7-8, 12-13, and 18-19 recite additional patentable features. Accordingly, for at least the same reasons given above for the allowance of Claims 1 and 9, the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) with respect to dependent Claims 3-5, 7-8, 12-13, and 18-19 and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Claims 2, 6, and 10-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Strierner, DeGeorge, and Hiltgen in view of Henrie et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,519,144). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 6, and 10-11 depend from independent Claims 1 and 9 and therefore include the claim limitations found in Claims 1 and 9. Claims 2, 6, and 10-11 are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons presented above for the patentability of independent Claims 1 and 9. Additionally, Henrie does not address the deficiencies of Strierner, DeGeorge, and Hiltgen with respect to independent Claims 1 and 9. Further, dependent Claims 2, 6, and 10-11 recite additional patentable features. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) with respect to dependent Claims 2, 6, and 10-11 and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Claims 14 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Strierner, DeGeorge, and Hiltgen in view of Sylvester et al. (U.S. Application No. 2003/0068034). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 14 and 17 depend from independent Claims 1 and 9 and therefore include the claim limitations found in Claims 1 and 9. Claims 14 and 17 are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons presented above for the patentability of independent Claims 1 and 9. Additionally, Sylvester does not address the deficiencies of Strierner, DeGeorge, and Hiltgen with respect to independent Claims 1 and 9. Further, dependent Claims 14 and 17 recite additional patentable features. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) with respect to dependent Claims 14 and 17 and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

Claims 15 and 16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Strierner, DeGeorge, and Hiltgen in view of Kelley et al. (U.S. Application No. 2004/0253944). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 15 and 16 depend from independent Claims 1 and 9 and therefore include the claim limitations found in Claims 1 and 9. Claims 15 and 16 are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons presented above for the patentability of independent Claims 1 and 9. Additionally, Kelley does not address the deficiencies of Strierner, DeGeorge, and Hiltgen with respect to independent Claims 1 and 9. Further, dependent Claims 15 and 16 recite additional patentable features. Accordingly, the withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) with respect to dependent Claims 15 and 16 and allowance thereof are respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all the claims pending in this patent application are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance of all the claims are respectfully solicited.

If, however, the Examiner believes that there are any unresolved issues requiring adverse final action in any of the claims now pending in the application, it is requested that the Examiner contact the applicants' attorney, so that a mutually convenient date and time for a telephonic interview may be scheduled for resolving such issues as expeditiously as possible.

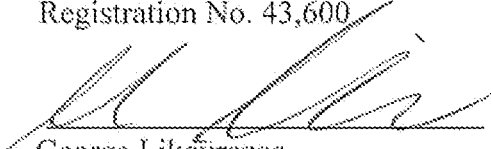
In the event there are any errors with respect to the fees for this response or any other papers related to this response, the Director is hereby given permission to charge any shortages and credit any overcharges of any fees required for this submission to Deposit Account No. 14-1270.

Respectfully submitted,

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